

Regional Service Council Meeting For Region Six  
11-2-05

The second meeting of the Region 6 Regional Service Council was held on 11-2-05 at 4:00 p.m. at the Family Opportunity Center, in Logansport. Those present for this meeting included Judge Bob McCallen from Wabash County, Judge Lynn Murray from Howard County, Judge Julian Ridlen from Cass County, Barbara Hendrickson, Guardian Ad Litem, James Shiveley, Regional Child Welfare Services Coordinator, Glynn Hipp, DCS Regional Manager, Chris Ackerman, Fulton County Director, Anita Closson, Cass County Director, Margery Justice, Wabash County Director, Roger Suhre, Howard County Director, Fay Russell, Miami County Director, and Marilyn Robinson, Howard County DCS Supervisor.

Glynn Hipp opened the meeting by reminding everyone that Child Welfare is undergoing many changes in Indiana. One of these changes is the onset of the Regional Service Councils, with the responsibility to ensure that the same kinds of services are available for children and their families regardless of the county in which they live. Judge Ridlen distributed a copy of a newspaper article discussing possible changes in the way child welfare services are to be funded.

Glynn then stated that there is a Protocol for Regional Services Meetings, but as of this meeting it was in a draft phase. Glynn also mentioned that some service providers are interested in attending RSC meetings. Glynn asked for the input of the council members on this issue. Judge Julian Ridlen suggested we do a teleconference with the providers once or twice a year. There was also discussion regarding methods that could be used to keep the providers posted throughout the year.

The meeting was then turned over to James Shiveley, IV-B Coordinator, to provide information regarding the IV-B funding program and how it started. Jim shared the following information with the group:

- IV-B began in 1935 with the Social Security Act for Foster Services.
- This program was intended to lead services, not to entirely fund them.
- Total dollars with this program varies from year to year.
- There are five sections that are included in the IV B program.
- One component is to determine the kinds of services that are needed.
- Jim handed out the Service Standards Document and indicated it will be available on the website.
- His job is to monitor contracts, claims and vouchers.
- He keeps counties up to date with monthly reports.

The IV B process includes the following:

- County staff informs Mr. Shiveley as to what services are needed.
- An RFP is issued to potential providers who submit proposals.
- County staff evaluates proposals and let Mr. Shiveley know which services best fit the needs of the families and children in their counties.

- Contracts are issued to service providers to provide services.

In addition, Regional IV-B Coordinators will be able to assist RSC's with RFPs for services outside the IV-B parameters.

The Spreadsheet of Regional Services By County was handed out. This is a document that was completed by the child welfare staff of each county to identify services that are being used by the county.

- This was identified as still in draft form.
- County DCS Directors will be meeting to finalize the document before the next RSC meeting.

In closing, it was decided that Regional Service Council meetings would be held on the first Wednesday of every month at 4:00 p.m. The next meeting will be on December 7<sup>th</sup> by teleconference. The call in number is in Judge Ridlen's office and is 574-732-1387.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brooke Rentschler, Recorder

**Documents distributed at the meeting were as follows:**

Meeting Agenda  
Child Welfare Service Provider Evaluation  
Child Welfare Services Plan Document  
Service Standards  
Regional Services By County